

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Ecological Site Description

Site name: SOUTHERN HUMID INNERVALLEYS
Site number: R-270ZY036PR
Major Land Resource Area: 270 Humid Coastal Plains
Interstate correlation: NONE

Physiographic features: Elevation of this site ranges from sea level to 2000 ft rising gradually from the beaches on the Atlantic Ocean to the hilly karst area to the south. The area is divided in two distinct zones; the flat alluvial plains and terraces along the coast and the irregular features of the karst limestone inland.

Climatic features

Frost-free period: 365 DAYS
Freeze-free period: 365 DAYS
Mean annual precipitation: 35 TO 50 INCHES
Mean annual air temperature: (26°C) 78 to 80°F
Mean annual soil temperature:
Monthly moisture and temperature distribution:

	Mean Precipitation (inches)	Percent Precipitation (%)	Mean Temperature (°F)
January	4.42	8.17	75
February	2.69	4.97	74
March	2.46	4.54	75
April	4.45	8.23	77
May	5.10	9.43	79
June	4.29	2.31	80
July	3.75	6.93	80
August	4.10	7.58	81
September	4.85	8.96	80
October	5.03	9.3	80
November	6.13	11.33	78
December	6.80	12.57	76
Mean annual	54.07		

Other climatic features:

Associated water features: There are three distinct elevation ranges in this area and possess the highest precipitation and lowest temperatures. Surface water from precipitation, perennial streams, and lakes is abundant. Ground water is limited to water that seeps into the soil and is stored in the dense and massive underlying volcanic rock.

Elevation Aspect: 150 to 1500 ft.

Percent Slope: 5 to 40

Soils: Soils on this site are deep to very deep, moderately well drained to somewhat poorly drained formed from volcanic sediments. Reaction is moderately alkaline. They occur in alluvial fans and terraces.

Major Soil Taxonomic Units correlated to this site include:

Montegrando, MsC
Mabi, MaB
Perchas, PeD2, PhC2, PhD2

Plant communities: This site consists primarily of sod forming grasses in nearly pure stands.

Major plant species composition: Grasses constitute by 92% of the composition, forbs make the remaining 8%.

GRASSES AND GRASSLIKEs

Scientific Symbol	Common Name	Group	Pounds per Acre	Percent by Weight	Percent Allowed For Group
AXCO	Carpet grass	1			
DISA	Pendejuelo	1			
PACO14	Creeping wheat grass	1			
PANO3	Bahia grass	1			
SPIN4	Whorled dropseed	1			
STSE	St. Augustine	1			

FORBS

Scientific Symbol	Common Name	Group	Pounds per Acre	Percent by Weight	Percent Allowed For group
BRVI5	Flor de conchitas	2			
EUPAT	Bitterbrush	2			
INSU	Anil	2			
STHA	Tick trefoil	2			

URLO	Burbrush	2			
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Shrubs and Trees

Scientific Symbol	Common Name	Group	Pounds per Acre	Percent by Weight	Percent Allowed For group
LAIN2	Wildsage				
SOTO4	Turkeyberry				
PSGU	Guava				

Ground Cover and Structure

	Height Above the Ground											
	Not applicable		6 to 12 inches		12 to 24 inches		24 to 60 inches		60 to 80 inches		180 to 240 inches	
	% Ground cover	% Canopy cover	% Ground cover	% Canopy cover	% Ground cover	% Canopy cover	% Ground cover	% Canopy cover	% Ground cover	% Canopy cover	% Ground cover	% Canopy cover
Trees												
Shrubs												
Grasses and grasslikes									15	80		
Forbs							1	15				
Cryptogams												
Coarse fragments												
Bare ground												
Litter												

Transition Pathways: The native climax species are generally replaced by shrubby vegetation when subject to heavy grazing.

Total annual production: 10000 lbs/acre

Plant Growth Curves:

Growth curve number: PR001

Growth curve name: PR PLANT GROWTH CURVE

Growth curve description: Native and naturalized grasslands.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
6	5	4	7	12	10	9	10	11	10	9	7

Animal Community:

This site is important for several wildlife species. Major species using the site include:

Anolis spp.
Bananaquit
Dove's
Eleutherodactylus spp.
Falco
Guaraguao
Pitirre
Rodents

Associated sites:

Similar sites

Plant communities, production, and vigor of this site is not similar enough to other sites in the region to cause a problem or concern.

Site documentation

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Revised: 05/2002, E. Más, J. Lugo

Supporting data for site development: Supporting data include clipping studies, and historical writing of the area. More documentation and study are needed to fully understand this site and the transitions that occur.

Sampling techniques

SCS-Range 417

Type locality:

Field Offices:

References:

USDA, NRCS. 1997. National Range and Pasture Handbook.

USDA, SCS. Soil Survey's

Site Approval:

This site has been reviewed and approved for use:

USDA NRCS Resource Conservationist

Date